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Vol III No 202 *16 October 1980*

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USSR-U.S. MILITARY PARITY KEY TO SUCCESS IN GENEVA TALKS

LD151236 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] We follow with comment by observer Vadim Teplov on the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

The meeting in Geneva is beginning in a complicated atmosphere influenced by different factors, some contributing to its success, others hampering it. An important success factor is the Soviet Union's steady striving to limit the arms race and reduce armaments, primarily nuclear. This striving meets with growing support from the majority of nations, including the population of the European countries that are NATO allies of the United States. Another favorable factor is the approximate balance of power between the Soviet Union and the United States that exists now. The British newspaper THE GUARDIAN has said all independent analysts believe that at the moment the two powers have reached general parity that is likely to be maintained in the foreseeable future. This situation must naturally promote success in the talks.

The major factor that will considerably hamper progress at the Geneva talks is the United States administration renouncing the basic principles of equality and equal security of both sides. As a matter of fact the necessity to adhere to these principles was acknowledged by the two latest Republican presidents and reaffirmed by President Carter. The Carter administration however has taken a number of steps aimed at upsetting the existing parity. For this purpose it has worked out plans for building up the nuclear capacity of all elements of the so-called American triad, land, naval and airborne nuclear forces. The United States has taken upon itself the burden of unprecedented military spending that provides for following the policy of strength. It still has not ratified the SALT II agreement.

One of the factors that would promote success at the talks on limiting nuclear arms is the explosive international situation as due largely to the American efforts to settle international disputes by military strength and by means of blackmailing threats. Witness the latest presidential directives numbers 51, 58, 59 and others. Isn't it paradoxical that on the one hand the United States proclaims its interest in limiting strategic arms and on the other says that localized nuclear warfare is possible.

Nevertheless the existing international situation makes nuclear arms limitation talks increasingly more important and urgent. After all the beginning of a number of significant Soviet-American talks that ended successfully was also marked by a complicated international situation. To make such talks a success it is necessary first of all to strictly observe the principle of equal security and respect for one another's legitimate interests. These are the principles the Soviet Union has based its proposals on reducing medium range missiles in Europe on. These principles also apply in the new Soviet proposal made in July that provides for discussing the issue of medium-range missiles in close connection with the question of the already existing American forward-based missiles. Agreements relating to this might come into force after the ratification of the SALT II treaty.

Forward Bases 'Mandatory Element'

LD151956 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1500 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] A Soviet-U.S. meeting is to take place in Geneva to discuss the start of talks on nuclear arms limitation. It is no secret that this is one of the most acute problems of the international situation, our commentator N. Polyanov writes:

What problems do we have in mind? We will precede an answer with a brief digression on the recent history of Europe. The 1970's and in particular the Helsinki forum of 35 countries have insured positive changes in Europe in the west and east of the continent. Serious attention was given to the problem of supplementing political detente with military detente.

The most important matter in this is the equality and equal safety of the parties concerned; that means, said differently, the balance of forces, particularly nuclear forces. Such a balance took shape toward the end of the last decade. The U.S. President has admitted this, saying: Between us and the Soviet Union there exists a great deal of stabilization regarding strategic arms and regarding relations between conventional forces in the European theater.

For his part, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt has stated: There can be no question that the equilibrium still exists. Even people not familiar with the secrets of strategy realize that the balance of forces in Europe constitutes an important factor in plans for the reduction of arms and armed forces, in particular nuclear ones. When we have an equilibrium it is possible to carry out disarmament in Europe--first as regards nuclear arms--without damage to the security of either side.

One of the elements in the European balance has become the Soviet medium-range missiles--called in the West the SS-20. The location of these missiles in the European part of the Soviet Union has balanced out the existence in the West of the so-called U.S. forward-based systems. One could say without exaggeration that the appearance of the Soviet missiles has created favorable conditions for a dialogue on military detente in Europe because they have introduced an equilibrium in the balance of nuclear forces in the West and East of the continent.

Let us now examine what the U.S. forward-based systems represent. These are bombers stationed in Britain and West Germany. They are capable of carrying nuclear bombs deep into USSR territory. In addition, there are military aircraft taking off from the aircraft carriers of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean which can also reach important Soviet industrial centers. There are also NATO submarines with Poseidon missiles--in fact five such units. In all, they are equipped with 400 nuclear warheads. Such are the U.S. means operating from forward bases.

In addition, there is the nuclear potential of Britain and France. It is true that the latter withdrew from NATO but it is still a member of the bloc. In other words, the Pentagon has always been striving to achieve nuclear superiority in Europe. If it has failed, this is mainly due to the vigilance of the Soviet Union, which is concerned with the defense of its territory and the territory of the socialist community, the Warsaw Pact signatories.

However, last December the NATO Council, acting under Washington's diktat, passed a decision designed to upset the approximate balance of nuclear forces in Europe. This was the location in West Europe of nearly 600 U.S. new-generation missiles--the Pershing II and cruise missiles. Up to now the West has received two Soviet proposals concerning talks pertaining to talks on medium-range missiles. One was made by Leonid Brezhnev on 6 October 1979 and the other one on 6 November of the same year. The essence of these proposals boils down to the fact that the Soviet Union is prepared to begin talks on medium-range nuclear missiles provided NATO does not adopt a decision on the stationing in West Europe of U.S. new-generation missiles. NATO has so far not replied to the Soviet proposals which are still in force. Then, wanting to break the impasse regarding the medium-range missiles problem, the Soviet Union, during the Moscow visit of FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, announced new proposals.

The land of the soviets expressed its readiness to begin talks on medium-range missiles in close connection with U.S. forward-based weapons. It was then stressed that if an agreement was reached, it would only become valid after the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. agreement on the limitation of strategic, offensive weapons--SALT II. These are realistic and sensible proposals. Indeed, it is not possible to hold talks on the lowering of the threshold of nuclear confrontation unless one takes into consideration the existing U.S. means of forward bases.

These still constitute the basis of the NATO nuclear potential. If one is to reduce the Soviet medium-range missiles, it is also necessary to reduce the number of nuclear warheads at the disposal of the Pentagon in Europe. There is no doubt that U.S. forward bases should become a mandatory element in the Soviet-U.S. dialogue in Geneva. The near future will show whether the U.S. side will sincerely and seriously engage in such a dialogue. The Soviet Union does not expect to be waited for. Too much time has already been wasted due to delays on the part of NATO leaders and due to Washington's attempts to insure military superiority for the United States over the countries of the socialist community in Europe at all costs. The future belongs only to the policy of equality and equal security of both sides.

WARNKE CRITICIZES ADMINISTRATION'S ARMS RACE POLICY

LD151111 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 80 p 5

[Text] New York, 11 Oct, TASS--P. Warnke, former director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, has published an article in the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY in which he sharply criticizes the course of intensified arms race steered by the current U.S. administration.

Warnke rejects the false thesis used by the supporters of a further increase in militarist preparations in the United States, which claims that the only way to "make the Russians seriously consider" real arms control is through headlong military building. The untenability of this thesis, the article says, is graphically confirmed by the very course of the Soviet-American strategic arms limitation talks. "The Soviet Government," Warnke notes in this connection, "has always approached these talks seriously." And the standstill in efforts to ensure arms control is occasioned, in his words, "by the U.S. administration's inability to ratify the SALT II treaty and continue the negotiating process."

For a resumption of the talks, Warnke points out, there is certainly no need for an arms race. The only thing required is the "consolidation of achievements in the arms control sphere through ratification of the SALT II treaty and a continued quest for further responsible agreements on ensuring control of nuclear and conventional types of armaments."

GUDKOV SEES SAME ELECTION QUANTITY AT WORK IN 1980 AS 1976

LD151349 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 41, 10 Oct 80 pp 18-21

[Correspondent Yu. Gudkov dispatch: "Plains--Washington. Washington?"]

[Excerpts] New York--Four years ago the magazine NEWSWEEK, trying to gain an understanding of a presidential candidate by the name of James Earl Carter, wrote: "According to all the information, right from the start he is unsuitable for the role of a presidential contender--a southern rural Baptist with unknown qualities, unless you count two rows of splendid teeth, the far from unambivalent results of 4 years as govenor of Georgia and a desire to win which is so all-consuming that even his mother has called him 'as stubborn as a mule.'" At that time J. Carter offered the voters a long list of promises and made his noninvolvement in official Washington his main virtue. Now, after a series of major failures in foreign and domestic policy, he is again offering himself as president--relying, this time, on the experience of his time in Washinton.

"For Means "Against"

Only a year ago most observers believed J. Carter had no chance of reelection and was a one-term president. Today the White House incumbent is not only the Democrats' candidate, having beaten Edward Kennedy, but has reduced to a minimum the gulf separating him from Republican Ronald Reagan.

That does not mean that the voters have already made their choice. The unpredictability of the outcome of the current campaign is due precisely to the lack of such a choice. A poll conducted by TIME magazine showed that 43 percent of voters describing themselves as supporters of R. Reagan only want to vote against J. Carter. And 34 percent of those polled support J. Carter only because they do not want to see Ronald Regan as president, while 61 percent of the supporters of the third candidate--the "independent" John Anderson--simply intend to vote both against J. Carter and against R. Reagan. In other words, this year the majority of voters will be voting not "for," but "against." Nonetheless, unpopular candidates have every chance of winning on 4 November.

Four years ago many people saw some kind of magic in J. Carter's success. But it is not a question of magic. J. Carter began his first presidential campaign only after familiarizing himself in detail with the voters' sentiments. This happened in 1974, when he was appointed Democratic Party coordinator for the mid-term elections to Congress. Analysis indicated that Americans were more disillusioned than ever before with the government's inability to resolve problems affecting the country's present and future and wanted sober, realistic and consistent leadership from Washington. J. Carter exploited these sentiments. In his autobiography, published as a separate book, he spoke of what the majority wanted to hear: "Our country has no goal which everyone can understand, no clearly defined tasks, just as there is no organizational mechanism which can determine and resolve those tasks."

A Positive Attitude to the Product

On this basis a model presidential candidate was created--a person not connected with the bureaucratic apparatus in Washington; a skillful organizer, with a love of "details" resulting from his speciality as an engineer; a liberal on race issues and a conservative on financial issues; an opponent of war and violence in view of his profound religious commitment; a farmer by profession and therefore the farmers' friend. The aim was achieved by means of promises aimed at clearly defined strata of the population and political groupings. The promises were not notable for concreteness or love of "detail," but they were taken as the tip of the iceberg, resting on broad and firm foundations. As it turned out, for instance, the promise of an annual reduction in military expenditure by $5-7 billion was intended above all for the liberal wing of the Democratic Party, but the public took it as a whole program in the foreign policy sphere.

The accents were shifted if the interests of the election race required it. As soon as the farmer candidate's popularity started to fall, Tony Shwartz, the creator of hundreds of television films advertising Coca-Cola, was immediately summoned to help. "We swept him from the fields and into a library, wearing a suit," Shwartz said, explaining the idea of the new television movie. "Whether it is Coca-Cola or Jimmy Carter, our task is to obtain the necessary attitude from the consumer or voter. We are not trying to express a viewpoint, we are mounting images and sounds which create in the viewer a positive attitude to the product irrespective of whether the product is promising or not."

The prudence of the campaign organizers and the skillful utilization of propaganda opportunities played a part, but there are circumstances of much greater importance. J. Carter secured his greatest victory over the power center in the Democratic Party itself--the "outsider" won the party leadership over to his side. The Democratic leadership realized that the aura of a fighter against the established order gave J. Carter additional, considerable advantages in the voters' eyes, although that aura was like those artificial virtues with which Tony Shwartz so cunningly endows the "product" entrusted to him.

The Vietnam war, which gave rise to mass protests, and on its heels the exposure of the Washington elite's dirty machinations--the "Watergate Affair"--undermined trust in government power. At the same time the prolonged economic stagnation accompanied by the steady growth in military appropriations made an expansion of social programs impossible.

It was not only the Republicans, who were then in power, who experienced political difficulties.

In 1976 the "abstainers' party" totaled 45.6 percent of voters. A disproportionately high number of these were a portion of the population on which the Democratic Party has traditionally relied. Prof Herbert (Parmet) wrote, in a book published in 1976: "The Democratic Party has no fundamental, programmatic stance which would inspire confidence.... I would not put two cents on any Democrat intending to run this year."

They Found Him in Plains

In these conditions the contender for the presidency from the unknown small town of Plains (683 inhabitants), not connected with the bankrupt party leadership and therefore free to choose his offers and promises, perhaps offered the only opportunity to introduce some "new" and therefore attractive element into the Democrats' political game.

The Price of Promises

The main gamble in the struggle for the White House was on the voters' profound distrust of official Washington. But what J. Carter was "selling," as the Americans are fond of putting it, was not a program, but himself. He counterposed himself to Washington and spoke out loudly against "big shots" and "powerful politicians." The "discrepancy" between the candidate J. Carter and existing ideas about politicians was constantly stressed. "I do not have to be president," he said at innumerable meetings with voters. "There are many things I will not do if I am elected. I will never lie, I will not say anything that could mislead people, I will not abuse trust and I will not evade a difficult problem. I am deeply devoted to my principles, which are based on my religious convictions, and they are unshakable. I only ask for conditional support, because I want my awareness of this to make me live up to your expectations constantly. If I ever disappoint your expectations, do not support me any longer." Such statements won people over. But the distrust was not totally dispelled. That is why the rivalry between Gerald Ford and James Carter in fall 1976 was, as an observer noted, "a contest between two fears: fear of the known and of the unknown."

J. Carter's strategy proved successful. And his promises, such as "when it comes to appropriations, we will spend money on the things people need," ultimately gained a magnetic force.

The glibness [legkost] with which the White House contender made his statements from the outset alarmed even his supporters. J. Carter's viewpoint on this problem is well known. He expressed it with rare frankness when, 3 weeks after his inauguration, he paid a ceremonial visit to his hometown of Plains. Answering his cousin, who had asked whether the consequences of the commitments he had assumed did not scare him, taking into account the importance of his post, J. Carter declared:

"I learned to be cautious during the campaign, since then your position is uncertain and your fate is cast upon the waters. If you made a mistake, that would be all you were left with. Now if you make a mistake, you're still President."

This thesis, whereby the post and the duties stemming from it are placed on different shelves, makes the President's policy more understandable.

"Cannot...Cannot..."

The lack of core in the President's course was demonstrated with rare clarity a year later. By then, the differences between the approaches of the State Department and the National Security Council toward relations with the Soviet Union had become obvious and had caused a wave of criticism of the White House. It was decided that the President would deliver a speech at a naval academy which would define the U.S. course in this extremely important sphere of foreign policy. Following established procedure, J. Carter asked for suggestions from Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, his National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski and a number of other leaders regarding the content and tone of the speech. In its final form the speech consisted of two parts that were largely at variance with each other--the reports of C. Vance and of Z. Brzezinski. The text was distributed to journalists in advance. So when the President had finished the first half (Vance's memorandum), one of them exclaimed: "Now for war." There followed Z. Brzezinski's text. The next day the Washington POST's report was headlined "Two Different Speeches."

The result of this uncertainty, inability to perceive the main thing, or simply indifference is not merely a dangerous confusion. The vacuum created by a lack of political leadership, as a rule, is filled by forces pursuing narrow, self-seeking interests. These forces not only make themselves reckoned with, but actually dictate policy. It is no accident that, to the question "What is Carter's main weakness?," Professor Betty (Gled), author of a monograph on the current administration, gave a one-word answer: "ultraflexibility." His readiness to change political allies or programs is, in her expression, carried "to extremes."

What could be clearer than the promise to reduce by $5 billion-$7 billion the military appropriations in the budget prepared by the previous administration? Nonetheless, the "hawks," who had closely watched J. Carter from the moment he became a serious presidential contender, did not regard this promise as final, because they had also heard other statements from the same candidate, such as this: "Our country is no longer strong, we are no longer respected.... We are now afraid to compete with the Soviet Union on equal terms."

Moreover, the White House not only extolled its "flexibility," but also demonstrated it. What did this result in? "For the success of the talks with the Russians," newspapers assured people, an understanding must be reached with the "hawks" in order to "guarantee" ratification of the SALT II treaty. The "understanding" was reached, but the document that was signed has still not been ratified. Instead of decreasing, the military budget is increasing each year, and new programs for the development and deployment of strategic armaments are being adopted.

Domestic programs are also marked by "ultraflexibility," with similar results. J. Carter promised to reduce U.S. dependence on imported oil. But imports have increased almost 25 percent. He promised to balance the budget. But this year the deficit will be $61 billion.

He promised to reduce inflation--it has increased from 5 percent to 18 percent. The attempt to reform the tax system so as to close "loopholes and refuges for the rich" and to reorganize the social security system ended in pitiful failure. According to the kindest estimates, the number of unkept promises has now topped 200.

The result of J. Carter's 4 years in the White House can be summed up in his own words from the State of the Union Message: "The government cannot solve our problems. It cannot define aims. It cannot give us vision. The government is incapable of eradicating poverty or making the economy prosperous, reducing inflation, saving our cities, eliminating illiteracy or supplying us with energy."

For a man who promised the country leadership in the quest for national purpose, that is tantamount to an admission of political bankruptcy.

J. Carter used to be called "Jimmy who?", emphasizing the lack of any clear idea of his views and abilities. Now he is called "Jimmy why?", as an indication of the absence of reasons to reelect him. Nonetheless, today, as 4 years ago, two fears are competing: fear of the known, and of the unknown. Only this time it is the Democrats' candidate who is the "known" quantity.

DROBKOV DERIDES U.S. CLAIMS ABOUT SOVIET INTENTIONS IN GULF

LD151715 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 80 p 5

[V. Drobkov article under the rubric "Who Is Against Detente": Washington's Persian Fairytales"]

[Text] It is hard to say whether the Americans are familiar with the Russians saying "an elderberry in the garden and a peasant in Kiev" [used mockingly when a false connection is made between two completely unrelated things], but the anti-Soviet ballyhoo that people in the United States are trying to whip up about...the conflict between Iraq and Iran is in complete accordance with that saying's topsy-turvy logic. Launching themselves from the real events in southwest Asia, certain American journalists and, in their wake, even some politicians are soaring on wings of fantasy so outrageous that even the most astounding Persian fairytales pale in comparison.

A kind of record in concocting these fantasies is held by W. Beecher, author of an article in the Boston GLOBE. As early as in the third paragraph of his opus, he suggested that the USSR might bring troops into Iran any day now! Without allowing time to recover from that prediction, the Boston GLOBE spews forth a heap of still more fantastic statements, including a "Soviet military presence in the Persian Gulf region, where the USSR could create weapons and ammunition dumps," and the claim that "the Russians would be able to drop many more paratroopers into the region than the Americans, and to do so more rapidly...", and the "overthrow of the governments of the oil-producing states."

The Boston GLOBE's fantasies find that the shores of the Persian Gulf cramp their style, and the paper begins to scare the West in general and America in particular. "In that event the economies of West Europe, Japan and the United States could be subordinated to the tasks of Soviet policy. That is a nightmarish prospect, at the very least," the newspaper exclaims.

The Boston GLOBE's fantasies were soon repeated almost verbatim in the New York DAILY NEWS. Clearly ascribing the Washington strategists' plans and actions to the USSR, this newspaper claimed that "behind the scenes, the Russians are helping continue the war."

Certain American legislators also hastened to join in the anti-Soviet chorus. For instance, Senator Bill Bradley makes an appeal in the New York TIMES for "a Soviet incursion in the Persian Gulf to be prevented" at all costs. As a first measure the senator demands the start of massive American weapons deliveries to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries operating from Pakistan's territory. And the senator cynically calculates the benefits the United States might derive from a still greater deterioration in the relations between Pakistan and its neighbors.

Those instances will serve very well as an example of the fueling of anti-Soviet hysteria, which is, alas, no rarity in the atmosphere of militarist fever gripping a certain section of Washington's politicians and journalists. Carefully cultivating the worst fears of cold war times, they are prepared to ascribe any international event, any crisis to "Moscow's intrigues." Moreover, Washington is clearly not averse to diverting public attention from its own aggressive preparations in the Persian Gulf by shouting about a "Soviet threat," or to glossing over the fact that the outcry about defending "American vital interests" there stems from the interests of the U.S. militarists and oil monopolies.

It is no accident that Washington's Persian fairytales are being palmed off on readers at this precise time when, according to the American press and administration spokesmen, the United States has not abandoned plans for armed actions in the Persian Gulf.

BANDURA CLAIMS U.S. 'REVIVING JAPAN AS AGGRESSIVE FORCE'

LD141347 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Oct 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent Yu. Bandura "Letter From Tokyo": "According to Someone Else's Scenario"]

[Text] "I cannot remember a time when American-Japanese relations were as good as they are today," U.S. Secretary of State E. Muskie told Japanese Foreign Minister M. Ito at a recent meeting in Washington. Obviously what the secretary of state had in mind was not the trade and economic relations between the United States and Japan, which have been subject to tests of durability on both sides in the last few years.

And if the head of the U.S. diplomatic department preferred to "forget about" the sharp economic contradictions, this was for only one reason: Reopening the unhealed wound of trade and economic disorders can only hinder Japan's involvement in the U.S. "global" military strategy. The extent of U.S. intentions with respect to the Far Eastern ally can be judged from the content of the talks held in Tokyo recently between Perry and Komer, two U.S. under secretaries of defense, and the leadership of Japan's military department.

These talks were once again used by the American side as a platform from which to make insistent demands that Tokyo step up its military preparations "on the basis of protracted and constant efforts." However, what attracts attention is not this old theme, but the new verses that were heard in the American duo's performance. Thus Perry, revealing plans for the future, stressed, in particular, at a meeting with Omura, chief of the Japan Defense Agency, that whatever resources Japan invests in the arms buildup, its efforts will be insufficient until such time as "qualitative and quantitative superiority" is ensured in the military sphere.

This admission speaks for itself. At the same time it reveals the full extent of the cynicism and falsity which runs through the "Soviet threat" campaign unleashed by reactionary forces of imperialist states. [paragraph continues]

For them, this is no more than a smokescreen to cover intentions of a frankly aggressive nature in the attempt to violate in their own favor the established equilibrium of forces between east and west. The fact that in terms of economic potential Japan ranks second among capitalist states after the United States makes Washington's importunities particularly persistent: By dragging Tokyo into the orbit of its strategy the United States hopes to speed up the creation of the "military superiority" which was spoken of frankly by Komer, the other U.S. under secretary of defense, in a meeting with Omura, chief of the Japan Defense Agency. "Japan," he reasserted, "is our most important ally. It possesses outstanding technical potential and latent potentialities surpassing the level of other U.S. allies. It is only a question of how to realize this potential."

The Pentagon sees the way to implement its plans in drawing that country into the system of imperialism's bloc strategy as an active member. As THE JAPAN TIMES reports, citing official State Department and Pentagon spokesmen, the United States is nurturing plans for turning Japan into "NATO's Asian partner." Moreover, as those same spokesmen admit, the events of the last 1.5-2 years make it possible to assert that "the Asian NATO is already beginning to be created."

It is to speed up this process that high-ranking officials from the U.S. military department are visiting Japan. The local press calls attention to the fact that agreement was reached at the Tokyo Talks on the standardization of combat hardware in the arms of the American and Japanese armies. This standardisation will enable the United States to obtain a monopoly of the delivery of combat hardware, which Washington is also seeking from the NATO countries. The announcement of the forthcoming opening of a communications "hotline" between U.S. Armed Forces headquarters in Japan and the Japanese army's General Staff, which is to be created in the near future, was timed to coincide with the arrival of the Pentagon's envoys in Tokyo. The "hotline" is to promote the "NATOization" of Japan--in other words, the transformation of its armed forces into a tributary directed from across the ocean. Judging from the content of the Tokyo talks the United States is planning to redistribute the roles within the framework of its bloc strategy in Asia, stepping up the actions of its own armed forces against states of the Near East and above all in the Persian Gulf region. The "vacuum" allegedly created by the U.S. redeployment west of the Pacific is to be filled by Japan, which, as Komer admits, is assigned the role of gendarme in Southeast Asia. Finally, by no means of the least importance is Japan's transfer to positions of intensifying confrontation with the USSR in the Far East.

It is clear from all this that Washington is openly proclaiming the dangerous course of reviving Japan as an aggressive force in the Asian-Pacific region. But states in that region cannot remain indifferent to attempts to destabilize the international situation. The more so as very influential forces are emerging in Japan itself which are prepared to play the part according to the scenario composed on the banks of the Potomac.

NEW STUDY BELIES CLAIMS OF 'LIMITED' U.S.-PRC MILITARY TIES

LD151331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 80 p 5

[Correspondent V. Shurygin dispatch: "As a Decoy"]

[Text] Delhi, 8 Oct--How far and at what rate the U.S.-Chinese rapprochement will proceed is a question which, for perfectly understandable reasons, is worrying many Asian countries, including India. To lull public opinion these states, official spokesmen for the Carter administration alleged that military cooperation between Washington and Beijing is caused by the events in Afghanistan and that it is of a very limited nature. However, facts collected by the U.S. scholar (Benning Garrett) and published in the latest issue of the Hong Kong journal FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW attest to something completely different. Thus, after a series of meetings with Chinese military men from the PRC UN mission, the military analyst Michael Pillsbury compiled a secret document with the number 32. The document provides for a number of measures for U.S.-Chinese military cooperation--from the exchange of delegations and secret intelligence to arms sales. Another document called the No 7 concise guide and published in 1979 examines the possibilities of deploying U.S. military forces in China in the event of a crisis situation.

CPSU DELEGATION MEETS WITH KIM IL-SONG

LD160942 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] Pyongyang, 16 Oct, TASS--The CPSU delegation that had attended the sixth congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and the celebration of the 35th anniversary of the party, was received today by Kim Il-song, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. An exchange of opinion was held on questions of mutual interest. It was noted with satisfaction that friendship between the CPSU and the Workers' Party of Korea was strengthening, that all-round mutual cooperation on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism was widening and deepening. Confidence was expressed that the CPSU and the Workers' Party of Korea would continue following this course in their relations.

PRAVDA NOTES OPENING DAY OF KOREAN WORKERS PARTY CONGRESS

LD151009 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Oct 80 p 4

[Correspondent V. Razuvayev dispatch: "Sixth Korean Workers' Party Congress"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 10 Oct--The sixth routine Korean Workers Party [KWP] congress began in Pyongyang today, on the 35th anniversary of the KWP's founding.

The auditorium of the capital's 8 February Culture Center, where the congress sessions are being held, has a festive look. Some 3,062 voting and 158 nonvoting delegates are participating in the work of the congress. Foreign guests--delegations of communist and workers' parties, socialist parties, national liberation movements and representatives of progressive organizations--have also come to the congress.

A CPSU delegation headed by V.V. Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom, is attending the congress.

Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the KWP Central Committee, delivered the opening speech of the congress. Welcoming the delegates and guests, he stated that the KWP's supreme forum is a significant event and great festival for party members and all the country's people. Greeting today's 35th anniversary of the founding of the KWP, he said, communists and all the working people regard the path it has followed with a feeling of great pride. They are firmly resolved to toil with all their energy and persistence under the party's banner for the sake of the reunification of the motherland and the triumph of the great cause of socialism and communism. The present, sixth party congress will be an important event in the party's illustrious 35-year history and occupies a particular place in our party's activity and in our people's life.

This year--the year of the opening of the party congress, Comrade Kim Il-song continued, our country is experiencing a great revolutionary upsurge. Having wholeheartedly taken up the party Central Committee's call to greet the Sixth KWP Congress with high political activeness, the working people have achieved remarkable successes in all sectors of socialist building. The congress will outline future targets for the country's development and will propose a program of struggle for the reunification of North and South Korea.

Next the delegates unanimously elected the working organs of the congress and confirmed its agenda. The congress is to hear and discuss the report of the KWP Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission, examine the question of amendments to party rules and elect the KWP central organs.

Comrade Kim Il-song delivered the KWP Central Committee report on activity between the fifth and sixth congresses and on the party's future tasks.

AFGHAN PRIME MINISTER KARMAL VISITS USSR

Arrival in Tashkent

LD151324 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Tashkent, 15 Oct, TASS--General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal, who arrived on an official friendly visit in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, has made a stop-over today in Tashkent, the capital of the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan.

In the airport decked with the flags of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the Soviet Union and Uzbekistan, the guest was welcomed by alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uzbekistan Sharaf Rashidov, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of that republic Inamdzhan Usmankhodzhayev, head of its government Narmakhonmadi Khudayberdyyev and other officials. Babrak Karmal was welcomed by inhabitants of Tashkent and a large group of Afghans, who are under training in the capital of the republic.

Departure for Moscow

LD160656 Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Tashkent, 16 Oct, TASS--Flowers to the monument to Lenin were placed today in Tashkent, the capital of the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Uzbekistan, by Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. In commemoration of his stay in Uzbekistan, the guest planted a tree in the Alley of Friendship.

Babrak Karmal today left Tashkent for Moscow.

Arrival in Moscow

LD151000 Moscow TASS in English 0932 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] Moscow, 16 Oct, TASS--Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan today arrived here on an official friendship visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government.

The national flags of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the USSR were flying from Vnukovo Airport, when he was met by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the State Security Committee of the USSR Yuriy Andropov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev, and by other Soviet officials.

Kabul NEW TIMES on Visit

LD151836 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Kabul, 15 Oct, TASS--The Afghan people welcomes the official friendly visit by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the DRA Babrak Karmal to the Soviet Union. The Afghan public highly assesses friendly, goodneighbourly relations between the peoples of the two countries and support which the Soviet Union renders to Afghanistan in upholding the gains of the April revolution, its independence and territorial integrity.

The newspaper Kabul NEW TIMES published an editorial which gives an insight into the history of Soviet-Afghan relations and the selfless international aid by the northern neighbour to Afghanistan in various fields. The article points out that friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan go back to over 60 years and can serve as an example of goodneighbourliness and mutual understanding. These relations acquired a qualitatively new character after the victory of the April revolution and especially at its second stage of development. They correspond to the aspirations and vital interests of the peoples not only in the two countries but also in the whole region. Kabul NEW TIMES points out that Babrak Karmal's visit to the Soviet Union is of exceptional significance, for it is taking place at the time when the forces of imperialism and reaction are waging an undeclared war against the gains of the Afghan working people.

Moscow Dari Comment

TA152100 Moscow in Dari to Afghanistan 1630 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, we draw your attention to a commentary by our analyst on the occasion of the official and friendly visit of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], to the Soviet Union. Our analyst writes:

The Soviet people welcome from the bottom of their hearts and with great pleasure the visit of Babrak Karmal, the envoy of the fraternal people of Afghanistan and the (?leader) of the DRA, to the Soviet Union. The world's progressive and peace-loving people are also following this visit with the utmost attention. They recognize Babrak Karmal as an outstanding figure of the Afghan Government, as one of the founders of the PDPA and as one of the leaders of the April revolution--that has opened the way for constructing a new life and a society free from the exploitation of man by man in front of the Afghan people.

The second stage of this revolution is linked to the name of Babrak Karmal, under whose leadership the healthy forces of the Afghan nation thwarted the plot of imperialism and international reaction which wanted to deprive Afghanistan of freedom and independence and to destroy the gains of the April revolution. The Soviet people note with deep satisfaction the successes of their Afghan friends in this stage, among which can be mentioned the routing of imperialist mercenaries, the continuous development of normalization of the country's situation, the restoring of revolutionary order and the increasing unity of Afghanistan's patriotic forces.

Our analyst writes: We are pleased that in Afghanistan they highly value the support of the Soviet people for the DRA during these difficult moments for that republic. As Babrak Karmal said: The Soviet Union was with us and helped our people during difficult days. This aid was supplied in various spheres--for example from political and economic spheres to military spheres. Babrak Karmal said: We particularly felt this aid when our country was faced with the aggression of foreign forces.

The Soviet people--and progressive and peace-loving people throughout the entire world as well--highly regard, on the one hand, the fact that the Government of the DRA under the leadership of Babrak Karmal, is confronting the encroachments of imperialism and reaction against the independence, territorial integrity and the sovereignty of its homeland. On the other hand, the DRA is gaining a share in consolidating peace and in the defense of the rights of people.

The peaceful initiatives of the Government of Afghanistan aimed at establishing good-neighborly relations with Pakistan and Iran have enjoyed the meritorious recognition of all supporters of peace in the world. Both in Afghanistan and in the Soviet Union great importance is attached to this first visit of the leader of the Afghan Government from a foreign country, following the start of the new stage of the April revolution. This visit is a glorious manifestation of the ever-firm Soviet-Afghan friendship, which according to Babrak Karmal has attained a new nature with the victory of the April revolution--and especially following the start of the new development stage--reached a new peak. The leader of Afghanistan says that the spirit of real fraternity is among its distinct features, and nothing can shake it.

We, the Soviet people, are confident that Babrak Karmal's visit to the Soviet Union and his contact with Soviet leaders will consolidate this friendship more than ever. At the same time there is not the slightest doubt that this visit will make the ground favorable for consolidating peace, cooperation and security throughout the entire Near and Middle East.

As we are aware as a result of the conspiracies of the imperialists, namely the undeclared war against the DRA, the escalation of U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region, the staging of disputes between various governments [word indistinct] U.S. imperialism, the situation in this region has recently been severely aggravated. Under such circumstances contacts and an exchange of views among leaders of peace-loving governments that are in direct proximity with this region are particularly necessary.

We can justly term Babrak Karmal's visit as the visit of peace and friendship. This visit clearly demonstrates the deep feelings of friendship and fraternity that the Soviet people have toward Afghanistan and its heroic and freedom-seeking people--who are valiantly defending the gains of the April revolution. It can be assured t..at wherever in the Soviet Union Babrak Karmal and his companions visit, and with any personality that they meet, in all places, they will enjoy sincere and extremely friendly hospitality. Welcome, dear Afghan friends.

NOVOYE VREMYA CITED ON SITUATION IN HERAT PROVINCE

LD152200 Moscow TASS in English 2149 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct, TASS--"The people's power in Herat is gaining strength, democratic organizations are strengthening, the army and the volunteer revolution-defence units, acting side by side with it, are being consolidated" writes a NEW TIMES correspondent who visited that city.

"Streets are thronged with people. Traders call buyers to their dukans--shops. The indoor market and numerous bright bazaars under the open sky are functioning. There are also many people near the mosque where the service has just ended". This is how the journalist describes everyday life of that important economic and political centre of Afghanistan, about which Western and Beijing press frequently spreads "sensational" reports. It wrote, for instance, that Herat has been vacated, that there are no people there, or it was even captured and fully controlled by anti-governmental forces.

"Approximately 650,000 people reside in the province, (the total population of the country being 15 millions), said the governor of the province Khalil Ahmad Abovi. Herat itself noticeably extended in the past decade and now holds third place in the country for its population (after Kabul and Qandahar).

"The population now approaches 150,000. Among them there are many dekhans--peasants who hide from the terror of bandits."

A number of bandit gangs, which were heavily battered, are perpetrating outrages on the Herat soil till now, the correspondent points out. It is exactly Herat that was chosen by the American special services as the ground for a criminal experiment with grenades filled with nerve gas. The use of those poisonous grenades was "tested" in Herat in May, June and July.

"Before starting the operation, canards were printed in the world press that the Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea and Soviet troops in Afghanistan resort to the use of toxic substances," the article stresses. "That was certainly a monstrous lie from beginning to end."

The Afghan revolutionary armed forces are successfully waging struggle against the thugs, the correspondent points out. "In the area of combat operations I conversed with the bandits who were taken prisoner. The weapons confiscated from them are of American, British, Chinese, Egyptian and even Italian-made."

PAKISTAN, U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD AFGHAN PROBLEM ASSESSED

TA151801 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Text] Dear listeners, a greater number of Asian people and the people of the entire world in general have recently more than ever been comprehending the necessity of a political solution for the Afghan problem. Such a solution would without doubt play a large role in concentrating the efforts of all Asian countries in their struggle against the subversions of imperialism. Our commentator Boris Urozov has written:

One should acknowledge that in the West also some people like to talk of a political solution of this problem. However, the attitude toward and interpretation of the Western countries of this problem are very different. This is what separates the true from the false well-wishers, and those who sincerely want to improve the political atmosphere of southwestern Asia from those who in their remarks, by talking about good-will and assurances in fact attempt to aggravate conditions in order to achieve their selfish aims.

If we at least review the course of events over the last 5 months we will come to this conclusion: The Soviet Union, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], and a number of socialist and unaligned countries have consistently and persistently struggled for a political settlement of the DRA problem and have carried out a series of specific and effective measures during this period. In the first instance, our intention are those same 14 May DRA proposals according to which were foreseen negotiations between Afghanistan and Pakistan and between Afghanistan and Iran in order to seek agreement on the basis of the principles of good neighborliness and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other. Also the granting of relative [as heard] guarantees by some countries, including by the Soviet Union and the United States, was considered.

The Soviet Union, on its own, and by taking into consideration the definite stabilization of the situation in Afghanistan, and according to the agreement reached with the government of this country, withdrew some of its military units that are assisting the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in repelling foreign aggression.

Our commentator then writes: Such a development of events could have created the necessary and real motives for an immediate settlement of the problem through political means. However, the mutually interested parties, and above all the United States and Pakistan, had something completely different in mind, and continued their anti-Afghan subversive acts which are led from the territory of Pakistan and other countries.

Pakistan, which chaired the May conference of the organization of the Islamic countries, through exerting great pressure over the participants of this conference, succeeded in making the conference pass the anti-Afghan resolution desired by the United States. We should point out that Islamabad's official authorities, by utilizing their right as host of this session, even went so far as to deprive the DRA of its indisputable right to take part in this session in order to explain its stance. Moreover, effort was exerted in order to grant a handful ot cutthroats, who are residing in Pakistan, the appearance of legal representatives of the DRA. This rude and unjust act aroused the protests of many delegations of various countries, including Syria, Libya and the PLO.

In this previously mentioned session of the organization of the Islamic conference, again under the pressure of the United States, an allegedly special Afghanistan committee was established, whose main and important posts were held by Pakistani military authorities. Reports have recently been published indicating that in the extraordinary session of the organization of the Islamic conference in New York Pakistan will present the results of the activity of the special permanent committee on Afghanistan in connection with exploring solutions and ways for resolving the Afghan crisis. In connection with this the view of the Pakistani newspaper MUSLIM is noteworthy. It wrote: The special Afghanistan committee has reached a complete deadlock, and certain measures must be reviewed in order to end this situation. Thus facts show that the main culprits of the group of the Afghan problem [as heard] are not interested at all in the immediate solution of this problem. It is for this reason that they reject realistic measures for solving the crisis and continue the seditious anti-Afghan policy.

It is appropriate to remind you of the [word indistinct] discussions about the Afghan problem at the 35th session of the UN General Assembly and the convening of the extraordinary meeting of the organization of the Islamic conference, at which in both meetings General Ziaul Haq presented himself as expressing the will of the Muslim nations of the world. In this connection it should be pointed out that in Pakistan itself in spite of the barbarous acts of the military regime, opposition to General Ziaul Haq assigning himself the right of even representing the Pakistani people is increasing. These days, said Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, DRA deputy prime minister, during a Kabul press conference with journalists, the Afghan problem, which has been included in the current agenda of the United Nations, has a provocative aspect and can only be considered as interference in the internal affairs of the DRA. In other words the United States and its allies continue to distance themselves from the real possibility of a settlement of the Afghan problem, which depends on the termination of imperialist aggression against the independent country of Afghanistan, and not on such discussions.

GANDHI 'CONCERN' OVER IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT NOTED

LD141539 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 80 p 5

[TASS report under the general headline: "Iranian-Iraqi Conflict"]

[Text] Delhi, 9 Oct--During a meeting in Delhi with the Iraqi president's special representative Muhammad al-Khalaf, Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi expressed grave concern in connection with the conflict between Iraq and Iran, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA agency reports. I. Gandhi expressed the hope that it would be eliminated in the very near future as a result of peace talks. The prime minister stressed that there is a danger that the conflict could escalate and that other countries could interfere in it.

LAO FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER LEAVES MOSCOW AFTER TALKS

LD160951 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 80 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Homeward Bound"]

[Text] Phoun Sipaseut, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Council Party Central Committee Politburo, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, has been in Moscow en route for home from New York. During his stay in Moscow he had meetings at the USSR Foreign Ministry during which questions of Soviet-Lao relations were discussed, as well as certain international problems of mutual interest.

LAO ENVOY HOSTS RECEPTION MARKING LAO-SOVIET ANNIVERSARY

LD151229 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 80 p 4

[TASS report: "To Mark Anniversary"]

[Text] Vanthong Sengmuang, ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] to the Soviet Union, held a reception 8 October to mark the 20th anniversary of LPDR-USSR diplomatic relations. The reception was attended by I.B. Usmankhodzhayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, N.P. Firyubin, USSR deputy foreign minister, and other officials.

COMMUNIQUE ON CHINESE AGGRESSION AGAINST VIETNAM CITED

LD082322 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 8 Oct 80

[Excerpts] A communique of the commission for investigating the crimes of Chinese hegemonists and expansionists has been published in Hanoi. It says that in September and the beginning of October the Chinese authorities continued armed provocations on the border with Vietnam, crudely violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the republic. The failure of the aggression against Vietnam, notes Igor Lebedev, journalist on international affairs, obviously taught the Beijing leaders nothing.

Beijing's hypocrisy has been known for a long time. For this reason it is not surprising that when the responsibility for tension on the Vietnamese-Chinese border is discussed, the Chinese blame the Vietnamese side, threatening to teach Vietnam a lesson a second time. However, the facts tell a different story. At a time when the Vietnamese people are occupied with peaceful, creative labor in restoring the country and building socialism, it is Beijing that strives to preserve tension on the border between the two states. Chinese authorities refused the recent proposal by the Vietnamese Government to sit down at the conference table once more with the aim of settling bilateral relations. The hostile actions of Beijing against Socialist Vietnam show once more that the Chinese leadership does not intend to reject its aggressive policy in relation to neighboring states. This policy bears a serious threat to peace and security, both in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

USSR SIGNS AGREEMENT TO ASSIST KAMPUCHEAN BANKING SYSTEM

LD111814 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1703 GMT 11 Oct 80

[Text] Phnom Penh, 11 Oct (TASS)--An agreement has been signed here for the Soviet Union to give aid to the People's Republic of Kampuchea in reestablishing a banking system. The USSR will give People's Kampuchea the necessary equipment, and will give assistance training cadres for the financial institutions of the country.

POLISH WORKERS LAUD USSR ALLIANCE, SCORE POLITICAL INTRIGUERS

LD151357 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent A. Druzenko report under the rubric "IZVESTIYA Interview": "Loyal to Socialism"]

[Text] Warsaw--Some 20 years ago Warsaw's Karol Swierczewski plant established direct friendly ties with Moscow's Kalibr plant. Since then the Varsovians and Muscovites have many times exchanged delegations, familiarized themselves with innovations and transferred experience to each other. Among those who have taken part in meetings with the Kalibr workers are my interlocutors today. The workers Piotr Wonchala, member of the PZPR raykom, and Zbigniew (Straukhold), member of the plant's party committee.

They both belong to that generation of the Polish working class which began its working life in the first postwar years and traveled the whole of the difficult path of the formation of socialist Poland. Their life stories have much in common. Each of them has been working for 30 years at the Karol Swierczewski instrument plant, they share the same profession, that of patternmaker, and they both joined the ranks of the PZPR in the same year--nearly a quarter of a century ago.

We know the plant and its people like our own family, Wonchala and (Straukhold) begin the conversation. We remember how in the first postwar years the entire plant was accommodated practically in a single shop, and there were ruins all around. Now new blocks with modern machinery have been constructed in their place. Our enterprise produces high-precision products and is continuing to develop and to modernize, and tremendous labor by the collective--many thousands strong--is invested in all this.

Now, at a time when People's Poland is going through a difficult period, when the party is mobilizing forces to normalize the situation and when the economy is facing very serious difficulties, the workers are discussing all these problems with concern, as vital and urgent matters. Both communists and nonparty people are engaged in the debate. It touches on all kinds of issues. But, the workers say, we would like to dwell on the things which can justly be called basic, fundamental.

We know that certain Western mass media, in publicizing the situation which has arisen in Poland, would like--as, moreover, they have always done--to pass off the desired state as the reality and present events and phenomena in a distorted light. Referring to the opinions of individual "figures" of an antisocialist disposition, Western propagandists interpret recent events in Poland as an alleged action by the masses against the existing system. Here, as the saying goes, they are standing everything on its head. Propagandists of this kind are unable, or more likely unwilling, to understand that the demands and proposals put forward recently by representatives of workers' collectives in Poland are in no way directed against socialism. Whether it is a question of urgent problems of the working people's living standard, of the development of socialist democracy or of improving the national economic machinery, these demands and proposals are put forward on a socialist basis.

Every time, during the discussions, people stress invariably that Poland has been and remains true to the socialist principles of development and that its alliance, friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are indestructible, as before.

The same idea was resolutely stressed at the Sixth PZPR Central Committee Plenum which has just been held, in the report of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo "On the Political Situation in the Country and the Party's Urgent Tasks," delivered by Stanislaw Kania, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee. "Poland," he said, "is and will remain a member of the socialist community, a loyal ally of the USSR and an active herald of peace and international cooperation.

"This orientation of thoughts and actions is not determined by our country's geopolitical situation, as our opponents say, but arises from our people's historical experience. In Poland today socialism is not only a social system but the world outlook of millions of people."

The sources of this conviction on the part of millions of people are well known. The struggle waged by the Polish people during the war years for their country's liberation from the Hitlerite aggressors was also a struggle for a bright future, for a new, People's Poland. Soviet-Polish fraternity, sealed with the blood shed in battles against the common enemy, became even firmer during the years of socialist building. Unity with such roots cannot be shaken. And now that the country is going through a difficult period there is a mass conviction that the difficulties which have arisen can and must be overcome in unity with the Soviet people and with friends from the fraternal socialist countries.

Unfortunately there is in our society a small group of people who would like to exploit the situation for the purposes of their own political intrigues and achieve a change--if only a partial one--in the country's political course, Wonchala and (Straukhold) stress. These attempts are in vain, because the Polish working class has resolutely opposed them and will continue to oppose them. They know well, from many decades of their own historical experience, which social system accords with their vital interests.

The workers are aware of the full complexity of the present situation and understand that the way out of that situation is their own task, that nobody else will resolve for them the problems that have arisen. Wide discussion of these problems is now taking place in labor collectives and in all levels of the population. Questions of the democratization of public life, consolidating the party's ties with the masses, extending working people's participation in production management, improving the trade union movement, increasing everyone's responsibility for the results of his work and above all establishing the normal production rhythm are being posed seriously and in a principled way. Great attention was devoted to these questions at the Sixth PZPR Central Committee Plenum, whose decisions are aimed at strengthening the party's ties with the working class and all working people, at normalizing intraparty life and at undeviating adherence to Leninist norms and the Leninist style in work. These decisions form the basis for the stabilization of the situation in the country and for the pooling of all the working people's efforts to resolve the problems which have arisen.

The Sixth PZPR Central Committee Plenum stressed with new force the significance of the alliance between Poland--an independent, sovereign socialist state--and the land of the soviets and the other socialist community countries. This community's prestige throughout the world is lasting and unshakable.

We would particularly like to stress that for us, workers at the Karol Swierczewski plant, friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union are not just an abstract concept, my interlocutors stated in conclusion. And the feeling of friendship, cooperation and proletarian solidarity permeates our daily life. Meetings with Soviet friends--warm, cordial meetings that are long remembered--always confirm the commonality of our goals, views and interests. That is why we would like to convey words of greetings to our Soviet class comrades through the newspaper IZVESTIYA and to stress: We are always with you in single formation.

KULIKOV ATTENDS CELEBRATION AT POLISH EMBASSY

LD110122 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2300 GMT 10 Oct 80

[Text] The anniversary of the creation of the Polish People's Army is traditionally celebrated in many countries friendly to Poland. At the Polish Embassy in Moscow there was a ceremonial meeting, attended among others by Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states, first deputy minister of defense of the Soviet Union and marshal of the Soviet Union.

POLISH COMMUNISTS DISCUSS CURRENT PROBLEMS

LD161001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 80 p 5

[Correspondent O. Losoto dispatch: "Fruitful Process"]

[Text] Warsaw--The party organizations are discussing the materials of the Sixth PZPR Central Committee Plenum. Today the newspaper TRYBUNA LUDU describes the plenums of the PZPR voivodship committees in Lodz and Wroclaw and also conferences of the party aktiv in Bielsko-Biala and Leszno.

The newspaper notes that, in their analysis of the current situation in the country, the communists are speaking of the need to concentrate the party's efforts on the speediest solution of existing problems and are supporting the proposal to convene an extraordinary Ninth PZPR Congress. Attention is being focused on questions of improving the economic situation in the country and making the maximum use of production reserves, on the thrifty expenditure of materials and energy, the consolidation of labor discipline and the enhancement of responsibility.

The role of the party's primary organizations is increasing in the new conditions in which the party is operating, the PZPR Central Committee organ concludes. The fruitful process of improving the style of party work and consolidating the PZPR's links with the masses is under way.

HONECKER SPEECH ON RELATIONS WITH POLAND, FRG REPORTED

LD152130 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1839 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Berlin, 15 Oct (TASS)--Speaking in the town of Gera at a meeting of the party aktiv and propagandists, E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, stressed that the 26th CPSU Congress--the Leninist advance guard of the Soviet people--would open a new era in building communism in the country of the Great October Revolution. We, he said, have been following very attentively the heroic labor feats of the Soviet people in preparation for that important event.

Five years have passed since the signing of the new GDR-USSR friendship, cooperation and mutual aid treaty. It can be said rightly that our unity in all spheres has reached a new, higher stage. The prerequisites for good development are opening for all states of the socialist community thanks to a new type of relations between them. We have become even closer to one another and have jointly undergone many trials in the struggle against our opponents.

This can be said, too, of our fraternal relations with neighboring Poland and with the PZPR, which are linked to us by many years of time-tested and vigorous comity. This comity has once again been confirmed during the past few weeks and days. Both sides have stressed that each side must support the other when necessary to overcome difficulties. As is known, such complex problems have arisen in the Polish People's Republic. Polish communists and all true patriots of People's Poland are directing their efforts at solving these problems and at strengthening socialism.

Poland is a fraternal socialist country with which we signed a treaty establishing a peaceful border along the Oder and Neisse in the first year of the GDR's existence. Since then both states have been bound to one another through a whole system of treaties corresponding to the socialist, international nature of our relations. The socialist GDR, as a friend and ally, firmly and forever stands on the side of the Polish people who are strengthening people's power under the guidance of the PZPR. The socialist GDR cannot remain indifferent to the fate of People's Poland. We are in solidarity with the Polish people for whom the power of the workers and peasants has, since its establishment, ensured great achievements.

Therefore, said E. Honecker, we will oppose all attempts at interference by foreign reactionaries striving to take advantage of the present complex situation in People's Poland for their dark purposes. Let counterrevolution know that the sphere of its domination lies west of the Elbe and Werra. The speaker sharply condemned attempts by imperialist circles in the West, using the situation which has come about in Poland, to interfere in the internal affairs of the Polish people. He also criticized the Western mass news media which have mounted a campaign of slander over the events in Poland.

For People's Poland, just as for the GDR and the other fraternal socialist countries, friendship with the Soviet Union is a guarantee of its peaceful future, happiness and well-being, E. Honecker continued.

The international situation remains complex and tense. But the reactionary imperialist circles and the Beijing hegemonists, following a course of aggravating international tension, will not achieve the aims they have set for themselves.

The course of undermining peace and detente pursued by imperialist circles in the West is being countered by the firm peace-loving course of the socialist states. The declaration adopted in May by the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member-states contains realistic proposals aimed at the achievement of mutual understanding between East and West. The proposals submitted by the Soviet Union at the UN General Assembly session and the proposal to discuss the question of medium-range missiles in Europe simultaneously and in organic connection with American forward-based nuclear weapons are an important contribution to the strengthening of peace and security.

Dwelling on relations with the FRG, the general secretary of the SED Central Committee said: For us the fact is indisputable that our policy resting on the FRG treaty is a part of the cordinated policy of our alliance of Warsaw Pact member states for strengthening peace. It is a demand of the time that this be reemphasized. No one has the right to suppose that they can, as a mark of solidarity with the United States, boycott the Olympic games in Moscow, come out as an initiator and advocate of the Brussels NATO decisions and at the same time act as if they can conduct a dialogue with the GDR only about "facilitating journeys and visits." This is the behavior of one who does not take into account vitally important problems and who intends to ignore the fact that questions of peace, security and cooperation in accordance with the provisions of the Helsinki Conference Final Act can be decided only in combination.

The GDR strives for good-neighborly relations with the FRG and, just as in its relations with other Western states, its policy is a policy of peaceful coexistence. Proceeding from this we have done much in the past in order to continue the path toward progress in GDR-FRG relations.

Of course, E. Honecker continued, one cannot but take into account the fact that many problems exist between the GDR and the FRG, and we are still far from adequate normalization. The chief reason for this lies in the continuing attempts by the FRG to ignore the key principles of the sovereignty of our state in violation of the treaty on relations with the GDR. Progress can only be achieved in those relations when the FRG proceeds without any reservations from the fact that there exist two sovereign states independent of one another and with different social systems. Any aspirations to review the postwar structure in Europe will inevitably complicate the normalization of relations between the two German states and will even call them into question.

At the same time it is extremely important for both sides fully to approve and observe the principle of noninterference, both in bilateral relations and in their relations with third countries. The FRG is still creating serious obstacles on the path of broad settlements of various kinds which would be useful to citizens of both the GDR and the FRG. This applies first and foremost to the recognition of GDR state citizenship.

We think that the time has come--as befits relations between two sovereign states independent of one another--to exchange ambassadors, or in other words to turn the GDR and FRG permanent missions into embassies in accordance with international law.

The situation on the state border between the GDR and the FRG, which is at the same time a boundary separating the Warsaw Pact and NATO states, is of great importance. The joint border commission of both German states has done some useful work and important agreements have been reached. The soonest possible settlement of questions relating to controlling the border along the Elbe, which until now has been impossible to achieve due to the unacceptable stance of the FRG, would serve the interests of peace and good neighborliness.

As far as the agreement on transit traffic between the FRG and West Berlin is concerned, the GDR is making a big effort to ensure that this traffic flows in the most simple, fast and convenient way.

E. Honecker also dwelt in detail on the GDR's participation in socialist economic integration within the framework of CEMA, which the GDR joined 30 years ago. A prime example of this is fraternal cooperation with the USSR, the republic's largest and most important partner. The national economic plans of the USSR and the GDR for 1981-85 are being coordinated and implemented. Cooperation within the framework of CEMA, which accounts for 70 percent of the GDR's external trade, is also a firm basis for the country's participation in the international division of labor.

In conclusion, E. Honecker elucidated questions connected with the elections in the primary organizations of the SED in the course of preparing for the 10th SED Congress; the broadening of internal party democracy; firm links between the party and young people; and with ideological-education work. He reported on new measures for managing the national economy and planning.

WESTERN OPPOSITION TO GDR CURRENCY REGULATIONS NOTED

LD130932 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0820 GMT 13 Oct 80

[Text] Moscow, 13 Oct (TASS)--PRAVDA describes the new regulations approved a few days ago by the GDR Ministry of Finance on the obligatory minimum exchange of money for citizens of nonsocialist countries and West Berlin entering the GDR as "completely natural." The Berlin correspondent of this paper stresses in his article published today that the measures adopted by the German socialist state "are exclusively the internal affair of the GDR stemming from its sovereign rights."

The article says: "Everyone knows that over the past 6 years the real value of the currencies of nonsocialist countries has considerably decreased while at the same time retail prices in the GDR for the main consumer goods have remained unchanged. By the same token, the purchasing power of the GDR mark has been steadily rising in relation to the banknotes of Western countries. This is irrefutably borne out by numerous data of GDR financial organs published in the press."

Expressing surpise at the hullabaloo raised over this issue in the FRG and West Berlin, the newspaper writes: "Both in the press and in the speeches made by certain politicians there are assertions, contrary to all common sense, that the legal measures of the German socialist state are, somehow, contradictory to the accords between the GDR and the FRG, and the spirit of the documents of the all-European conference. And Mayor Stobbe of West Berlin has gone as far as to say he sees 'a blow to detente' in these measures.

"The financial measures adopted in the GDR are not in the least directed against tourism or foreign citizens visiting the country, but against speculative machinations with GDR currency, which continue to this day in West Berlin, with its Senate turning a blind eye.

Mr Stobbe, if anyone, knows full well that in spite of protests from the GDR, financial offices of the federal republic are working openly in this city, and they carry out exchange of FRG currency into GDR currency according to arbitrary rates, acutely inflated to the benefit of the West German mark. It is high time the West Berlin authorities thought seriously about the question of where the GDR banknotes are coming from if they are not allowed to be transported across the border in any way other than through contraband. And could one call such actions anything other than economic subversion against the GDR?"

[Moscow TASS International Service at 1445 GMT on 13 October adds the following paragraph at this point: In the foreign policy of the GDR, which results from the agreed course of the countries of the socialist community, relations with the FRG occupy an important place, writes the correspondent in conclusion. However, the German workers' and peasants' state built and is building this relation not on the basis of nonexistent "intra-German interests," but as with any other capitalist state belonging to an opposite social system.]

In conclusion the correspondent stresses: "The GDR is governed in the development of its relations with West Berlin by bearing in mind the pivotal position of the four-sided agreement on the fact that the city is not a composite part of the FRG and cannot be ruled by it. As far as the propagandist noise surrounding the currency exchange issue is concerned, it can only damage the development of normal good-neighborly relations between the GDR and the FRG and West Berlin and only benefits the opponents of detente."

MESSAGE TO BREZHNEV PRESENTED TO MALTSEV BY SFRY ENVOY

LD091620 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1551 GMT 9 Oct 80

[Text] Moscow, 9 Oct (TANJUG)--Marko Orlandic, SFRY ambassador to the Soviet Union, has handed a message to Viktor Maltsev, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union, from Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, to Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The message relates to the further development of friendly relations and cooperation between the SFRY and USSR and to some topical questions of international relations.

OPENING OF MEDICAL CONFERENCE IN ZAGREB REPORTED

LD150948 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2000 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] Soviet-Yugoslav Days of Medicine began in Zagreb today. About 300 experts are taking part in the traditional meeting of the physicians of the two countries, which this year is devoted to achievements in the field of cardiology. The participants in the meeting heard with great interest the paper by the USSR deputy minister of health, Chazov, on the achievements of Soviet medicine in suppressing cardiovascular diseases. In connection with the Soviet-Yugoslav Days of Medicine an exhibition of pharmaceutical products and of medical equipment has been opened in Zagreb. During their stay in Croatia the Soviet cardiologists, together with Yugoslav cardiologists, will visit some health institutions in this republic, and pharmaceutical and other enterprises.

WEST BERLIN 'PROPAGANDA' ON GDR CURRENCY SAID IN COLD WAR SPIRIT

LD151932 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Aleksandr Zholkver West Berlin dispatch]

[Text] Recent days have been marked by a fresh upsurge in the city in the noisy propaganda campaign directed against the GDR. The grounds for this hullabaloo have been the new decree of the GDR Finance Ministry on the regulations governing the exchange of foreign currency for citizens of non-socialist countries traveling to the republic, including those coming from West Berlin. It stands to reason that the whole financial and foreign currency situation is the inalienable prerogative of any sovereign state and naturally of the GDR too. Only its government can establish the scales and rate of its foreign currency exchange.

The new decree of the GDR Finance Ministry takes into account the fact that in recent years the real value of foreign currency from nonsocialist countries has decreased considerably. This is the result of raging inflation and the unchecked rise in the cost of living. The newspaper DIE WAHRHEIT today compared the prices and tariffs in West Berlin and the GDR. It states that approximately 80 percent of products and other goods in basic demand are cheaper in the GDR than in West Berlin, and this is not even allowing for prices in restaurants and for traveling on municipal transport. Here is one typical example: A bus ticket in West Berlin is seven times more expensive than in East Berlin.

In connection with this it is impossible not to mention the widespread speculation in West Berlin. Moneychanging offices are operating in the open here that change the currency of the GDR for West German marks at a blatantly increased speculative rate. Such an exchange is illegal anyway because the export of GDR currency into West Berlin is by no means permitted. It reaches there only as contraband. Thus West Berlin is being clearly used for the purposes of economic sabotage against the GDR. And so can you really be surprised when the GDR responds by taking measures to protect its economy?

And if the West Berlin press and certain city politicians, including Mayor Stobbe, are now kicking up a fuss in connection with this and are shouting about blows against detente and the Helsinki agreements, then it can only be stated that in reality the policy of detente and the implementation of the Final Act of the Helsinki conference are being impeded precisely by those who are encroaching on the sovereignty of the GDR and are whipping up a noisy propaganda campaign in the spirit of the cold war.

SAUDI ARABIA IS 'PRIVILEGED CLIENT OF FRENCH WAR INDUSTRY'

LD152005 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Paris, 15 Oct, TASS--The French Defence Ministry has signed a military contract with Saudi Arabia worth 14.4 billion francs. The contract makes for the delivery of six warships, a batch of combat helicopters and missile systems, as well as training of Saudi specialists at French military educational establishments and posting of a great number of French military and technical advisers to Saudi Arabia.

Local observers point out, noting the extremely great size of the deal, that Saudi Arabia is being turned into a privileged client of the French war industry. The Saudi armed forces are already armed with French tanks, 155-mm guns, Crotale anti-aircraft complexes and other types of military equipment. According to QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS, conclusion of the new contract confirms France's aspiration to consolidate its position on the Middle East arms market. On the other hand, political observers draw attention to the fact that signing of the contract was held at the moment when tensions are growing in the Persian Gulf zone in connection with the Iran-Iraq conflict.

TASS CITES BAGHDAD, TEHRAN REPORTS ON FIGHTING

LD151641 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Oct, TASS--Bitter fighting has been going on between Iraq and Iran for over three weeks. Iraqi troops, says a communique of the Iraqi Military Command published here, continued in the afternoon yesterday to strike blows at the enemy positions deep in Iranian territory. The Abadan-Port Badar-Shahpur oil pipelines has been destroyed. Five Iranian planes were shot down over the southern sector of the front and several helicopters destroyed. In the area of Ahvaz, the communique says, Iraqi troops are liquidating pockets of resistance by Iranians.

In the area of Abadan, an air strike was made on Iranian artillery emplacements and a column of tanks. One Iraqi plane was brought down during this operation.

Iranian aviation made a raid on Baghdad, wounding 12 civilians.

Iraqi president S. Husayn informed the U.N. secretary general that after the establishment of full control over Port Khorrramshahr Iraq began removing foreign ships staying there. There are now 63 ships and 26 countries on the Shatt al-'Arab river.

Tehran, 15 Oct, TASS--Reports coming in from areas of military operations indicate that Iraqi troops are concentrating efforts on capturing the city of Abadan, the centre of the Iranian oil refining industry. According to Radio Tehran the offensive started by them three days ago has been stopped within 7 km of the city.

The Iraqi command used landing forces in attempts to captured Khorramshahr. The Iranian side, for its part, is [words indistint] using aviation for striking blows at enemy troops. Strenuous battles are being fought in the suburbs of Khorramshahr, according to communiques of the Joint Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces. 20 Iraqi tanks were destroyed in Ilam Province.

The term of conscription in the Iranian Army has been prolonged from 18 months to two years.

IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL HAILS SOVIET-SYRIAN TREATY

LD161035 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 80 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Dictated by Aims of Peace"]

[Text] Our planet's appearance has changed beyond recognition. The mighty socialist system is achieving great successes daily. Powerful waves of national liberation are spreading through the awakened continents--Asia, Africa and Latin America, where millions upon millions of people have cast off the fetters of foreign enslavement and embarked on the path of a new life. And today we point out with pride that a most important phenomenon of our time is the unification of the two greatest forces of the present day--socialism and national liberation--and their cooperation in the struggle for world peace and social progress.

The Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries are sincere friends and national allies of the awakened peoples. They have always given them and are giving them now active support in strengthening their national independence, in building a new life and in repulsing the intrigues of the imperialists and their stooges. [paragraph continues]

The friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the Syrian Arab Republic [SAR], which are developing steadily and becoming increasingly broad and deep, are a graphic example of such cooperation between socialism and the forces of national liberation.

Today an important new page has been inscribed in the annals of Soviet-Syrian friendship. A friendship and cooperation treaty between the Soviet Union and the SAR was signed in Moscow during the visit to our country of Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and president of the SAR. Speaking about this historic document in his speech at the dinner in honor of the important Syrian guest, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev emphasized: "It is not simply a summation of the development of our relations up to now. The treaty raises them to a new, higher level.... On an international plane the Soviet-Syrian treaty is designed to serve to improve the situation in the Near East and to establish genuine, just peace there. The treaty has no other aims and is not directed against third countries. It is a treaty in the name of peace, not in the name of war."

In evaluating the significance of the friendship and cooperation treaty concluded in Moscow between the Soviet Union and the SAR we proudly state today that it has opened a new stage in Soviet-Syrian relations dictated by the desire to strengthen the Soviet Union's friendship both with Syria and with all struggling Arab peoples. The treaty is a model of the Soviet Union's relations with the anti-imperialist forces of national liberation.

Yes, the Soviet-Syrian treaty has brought the relations between our two friendly countries to a qualitatively new, still higher level. This document is of weighty political significance in the sphere of further strengthening and deepening Soviet-Syrian cooperation. The friendship of the USSR and Syria has its history. It has stood the test of time and is steadily strengthening in the interests of our two peoples, particularly in the past decade--strengthening in the political, party, economic, cultural and other spheres.

True to its international duty, the USSR has given and is giving Syria support in its anti-imperialist struggle, in the struggle to strengthen sovereignty and national independence. Our country is always beside the Syrian people--both during its peaceful days of building a new life and during the days of the severe trials which fell to Syria's lot in connection with the Israeli aggression.

It is hard to overestimate the international significance of the Soviet-Syrian treaty. Its topicality and special importance lie in the fact that it is designed to serve to improve the situation in the Near East where, as a result of the aggressive actions of Israel and the imperialist forces which support it, a dangerous hotbed of tension persists and where the United States is implementing a militarist policy and trying to strengthen its political and military-strategic positions and deploy a network of military bases.

Time has shown that there is only one way to improve the situation in the Near East and to establish genuine peace there--the way of struggle to achieve an all-embracing Near East settlement on the basis of the full and unconditional withdrawal of Israel's troops from all the Arab territories occupied by it in 1967, including the eastern sector of Jerusalem. It is necessary to realize the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their rights to self-determination and to create their own independent state, as well as the Palestinians' right to return to their homes in accordance with existing UN decisions. It is perfectly clear that the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO--the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative--is essential to the achievement of such a settlement.

The conclusion of the Soviet-Syrian treaty and the talks held in Moscow have demonstrated once again that our two states are following a single course aimed at chasing the storm clouds of tension from the horizon of the Near East and establishing a just peace and tranquillity in that region. The Soviet side evaluated highly Syria's principled position on questions of a Near East settlement and its effective contribution to strengthening the Arab states' unity of action. The Syrian side expressed gratitude to the USSR and the other socialist community countries for their immutable support for the Arab peoples' just struggle. It emphasized the need for the Soviet Union's participation in a Near East settlement at all its stages.

The leaders of the Soviet Union and Syria noted the importance of further strengthening in every way the friendship and cooperation between the Arab peoples and the peoples of the USSR and also the other socialist community countries--which accords with the interests of strengthening the Arab countries' independence and security.

Soviet-Syrian friendship.... Our countries' peoples pronounce these words with pride. They welcome the conclusion of the friendship and cooperation treaty between the USSR and the SAR--a visible sysbol of relations of a new type, of relations between the first country of victorious socialism and a country marching in the front ranks of the anti-imperialist national liberation front.

TSAPLIN VIEWS SIGNIFICANCE OF SOVIET-SYRIAN CONTACTS

LD151059 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 12 Oct 80 p 3

[Y. Tsaplin article: "Important Page"]

[Text] An important and weighty page has been inscribed in the annals of friendly Soviet-Syrian relations. The treaty on friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Syrian Arab Republic [SAR] was signed in Moscow 8 October. It was the logical result of the comprehensive development of relations between our two countries, particularly over the past decade. This intergovernmental document in no way merely records the level reached in bilateral ties but lays a firm foundation for their new development and deepening in all spheres and for the sides' further close cooperation in the international arena. The Syrian newspaper ATH-THAWRAH wrote in this connection: "The friendship and cooperation treaty is an important new step in relations between the two countries. It symbolizes the unity of the two greatest forces of the present day--socialism and national liberation."

The whole preceding period in the development of relations between our two states prepared the treaty's conclusion. L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, pointed out: "Ever since the Syrian people raised the banner of freedom over their country, the Soviet Union has always given them active support in strengthening national independence, in building a new life and in repulsing the attacks of imperialists and their stooges. During this time the Soviet Union and Syria have traveled a great path from the establishment of the first diplomatic contacts to broad, equitable and mutually advantageous cooperation which now embraces the political, economic, scientific, technical and other spheres.

Although the USSR and the SAR are separated by thousands of kilometers, they have much in common which draws our countries and peoples closer together and makes them comrades and friends. This applies, above all, to solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and reaction, for world peace and social progress. The treaty also confirms the commonality of the two countries' fundamental interests and their mutual desire to further strengthen friendship and cooperation.

The political support given to Syria by the Soviet Union and Soviet-Syrian economic cooperation enable the republic effectively to implement the planned program of transformations and firmly and consistently to advance along the path of further progress.

The treaty's significance extends far beyond the framework of bilateral relations. The newspaper TISHRIN points out that "...Despite the abundance of events shaking the Near East region, the signing of the Soviet-Syrian treaty stands out among them. This important historic step taken on the path of strengthening friendly relations between the SAR and the USSR will have a determining influence on the whole course of the development of the situation in the Near East."

Concluded in full accordance with the UN Charter, this document helps to strengthen the fundamentally new equitable and just relations between Arab states and the Soviet Union and is imbued with the desire to defend the ideals of peace and freedom and to create in our world an atmosphere of true friendship and fruitful cooperation. It is not directed against any third country or anyone's interests. It is a treaty in the name of peace.

By concluding the friendship and cooperation treaty our countries have made a weighty contribution to the cause of strengthening Syria's international positions. The treaty is new confirmation of the Soviet Union's constant support for the Arab peoples' just struggle for the return of the lands captured from them by Israel in 1967, including the eastern sector of Jerusalem, and for the Arab people of Palestine to gain the opportunity to realize their national rights in full. The Soviet Union and the SAR believe that the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal concluded under U.S. auspices contradicts the Arab peoples' vital interests, helps Israel to strengthen its hold on the occupied Arab territories and hinders the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Near East. "The strengthening of our relations and the present qualitative shift in their development," H. al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and president of the SAR, emphasized, "will contribute to the Arabs' struggle against the plot of the Camp David parties and will reinforce the struggle of the forces of socialism and progress against the imperialist offensive in the international arena."

The official friendly visit which H. al-Asad has concluded to our country and the signing of the treaty will give a new boost to Soviet-Syrian cooperation and make it still more dynamic, profound and comprehensive.

ARAB MEDIA COMMENT ON SOVIET-SYRIAN TALKS

LD151117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Oct 80 p 5

[Excerpts] TASS--The results of the Soviet-Syrian talks in Moscow are continuing to attract great world public attention. Foreign countries' mass media are noting that Soviet-Syrian relations are developing steadily along an ascending line and that the USSR and Syria will continue to pay primary attention to strengthening these relations, which are an important factor in the struggle to achieve a just and all-embracing settlement of the Near East problem.

The Soviet Union and Syria, Lebanon's AN-NIDA' writes, are fully determined to continue to pay primary attention to strengthening the political relations between them, regarding them as an important factor in the struggle to achieve a just, all-embracing settlement of the Near East problem. Moscow and Damascus are pressing for the return of all the lands Israel seized from the Arabs in 1967 and for the restoration of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative--the PLO.

L.I. Brezhnev, Algeria's ASH-SHA'B writes, stressed in his speech that the friendship between the Soviet Union and Syria, which is strengthening with every passing year, symbolizes as it were the unity of the two greatest forces of our time--socialism and national liberation--and their cooperation in the struggle for world peace and social progress.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS DEVELOPMENTS IN OGADEN FIGHTING

LD151127 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 80 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent Yu. Shtykanov dispatch: "The Ogaden's Hot Land"]

[Excerpts] Addis Ababa--A twin-engined aircraft with some 30 foreign journalists on board took off from the capital's (Bole) Airport and headed east, to the Ogaden. Fighting was taking place there recently, in May-July, between Ethiopian troops and Somali troops who had once again invaded Ethiopian territory.

Uardere leads a peaceful life, but.... Tanks and armored cars dug into the ground stand on the close approaches to the town, guns can be seen in artillery positions, and military patrols comb the surrounding area. Beneath a small awning we met with the region's military command.

"I have fought twice on Ogaden soil," Division Commander Col (Getane Khayle) said. "The first time was in 1977-1978, and the second this summer. The bitter lesson which the Somali rulers received taught them nothing. They did not abandon their mad idea of capturing the Ogaden. Incited and supported by international reaction, primarily the United States, they undertook a new adventure. Last May Somali troops crossed the Ethiopian border on two salients. One of them was the city of Uardere. The city's defenders beat off two attacks--in June and July. The second assault turned into a total disaster for the aggressors. Ethiopian units went over to the counteroffensive and totally routed the enemy, who fled the battlefield abandoning hardware."

Today an exhibition of captured weapons has been set up on the outskirts of Uardere. Rifles, submachineguns, machineguns, antitank rifles and mounts marked as being of NATO or Chinese manufacture....

In Diredawa the next day we were given an opportunity to meet and talk with eight prisoners captured in the Uardere region. Their testimonies exposed once again the spuriousness of the Somali authorities' assertions that they are not involved in the Ogaden fighting.

"I was a corporal of the 168th Batallion, 44th Brigade, Somali Armed Forces," prisoner (Mukhtar Mukhamed) said. "Somali regular army units carried out the attack on Uardere on orders from Mogadishu. I myself was born in Somalia, and none of the soldiers in our subunit has ever lived on Ethiopian territory. We all served in the Somali Army."

Col (Vorku Chernet), a spokesman for the Ethiopian Army command, emphasized in conversation with us that Ethiopia has never had territorial claims on Somalia. The Ethiopian Government advocates the development of good-neighborly relations with the people of that country. However, the Mogadishu regime's expansionist aspirations create a real threat to Ethiopia's security. This threat has grown particularly since the American-Somali agreement granting the Pentagon military bases for the deployment of units of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force in direct proximity to the Ethiopian border.

The Ogaden is an inclement region. The land here is hot in the direct and figurative senses of the word. But it is part of the Ethiopians' motherland, and they are prepared to rebuff anyone who encroaches upon it.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA REPORTS ON HARVESTING, WINTER SOWING PROGRESS

LD152210 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] As the USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported, by 13 October grain and pulse crops, excluding corn, have been cut on almost 114 million hectares in the country, which is 94 percent of the plan. Grain has been threshed on more than 99 percent of the area cut. Harvesting of industrial crops is continuing. Sugar beet has been dug on 57 percent of the planted area, sunflower has been threshed on 27 percent, potatoes have been harvested from 86 percent and vegetables from 69 percent of the area.

The rate of winter crop sowing and winter fallow plowing has grown considerably in the past week. Winter crops have been planted on 86 percent of the land given over to them and winter fallows have been plowed on 64 percent of the planned area.

In the south of the country the harvesting of rice and grain corn is in progress. The harvesting of industrial crops, cotton, sugar beet and fiber flax is continuing.

PAZHITNEV REVIEWS PROGRESS OF COTTON HARVESTING

LD151119 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 80 p 2

[A. Pazhitnev "Agricultural Review": "Cotton Grower's Generous Fall"]

[Excerpts] The cotton growers are continuing their shock work stint. This fall has been propitious for them. The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that as of 6 October some 6.4 million tons of raw cotton had reached the procurement centers--more than two-thirds of the year's plan.

This fall abounds in records. In Uzbekistan, for instance, cotton harvesting rates are in excess of last year's. Over 4 million tons of raw cotton--almost 70 percent of the annual target--have been dispatched to the procurement centers.

Azerbaijan farmers have scaled unprecedented heights this year. They needed just 20 days to fulfill the year's plan for the sale of raw cotton. Some 806,000 tons of cotton have already been delivered to the procurement centers. The farmers of Moskovskiy and Kumsangirskiy rayons in Tadzhikistan and Gyuarskiy and Serekhskiy rayons in Turkmenia are bringing in the "white harvest" in an organized manner. Many farms are operating as follows: After the combine harvesters have been over them for the first time, the plantations are watered so as to allow the remaining bolls to ripen. After an interval of 10-12 days the combines "comb" the field again. The cotton growers of Kirgizia and south Kazakhstan also have had good experience.

However, in a number of places scant concern is being displayed for increasing the combines' productivity. For instance, in the past 2 years in Turkmenia the number of machines has increased considerably yet each unit has harvested 0.5 tons less raw cotton. To this day many combines in the republic have not been put to work. While the Uzbek, Azerbaijan and Tadzhik cotton growers have been able to move 97-99 percent of the machines out into the plantations, 1 harvesting unit in every 20 is taking no part in the harvesting work on Turkmen farms.

The following figures also attest to the great diversity in the use of equipment: Daily output per combine in Ashkhabadskaya Oblast, for instance, is 1.5 tons while in Tashkentskaya Oblast, it is 6 tons. The cotton growers of Uzbekistan's capital oblast fulfilled the year's target on USSR Constitution Day yet Ashkhabadskaya Oblast cotton growers have dispatched only a little over half the planned amount of raw cotton to the reception centers.

Throughout the country as a whole this year's "white harvest" is characterized by more precise organization of work at all stages of the harvesting process. In the majority of rayons in Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan you will not see the snowy-white piles of newly harvested raw cotton between the plantations. The tried and tested flow method is in use here; the cotton passes from bunker to trailer to procurement center. Yet in Ashtskiy and Voseyskiy rayons in Tadzhikistan the harvesting process frequently marks time. Harvested raw cotton sometimes accumulates on the fields because fuel for transportation facilities is not brought in on time. In Tashauzskaya Oblast in Turkmenia there are disruptions in the last link in the process; the tractor trailers carrying the cotton frequently stand idle at the gates to the procurement centers.

There is no justification for the fact that in some places people try not to notice the poor harvesting rates since they are higher than last year's. But last year the harvest dragged on because the cotton was late ripening. This year there are no grounds for delaying, especially since the weather forecasters warn that the last 10 days of October are expected to be rainy.

ALMA-ATA REPORTS FURTHER PROGRESS IN KAZAKHSTAN HARVEST

AU151050 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1510 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] As reported, the republic's farm laborers, despite the bad weather, have completed earlier than last year the harvest of grain crops on an area exceeding 24 million hectares. But the harvest season is still not over and work is going on in elevators, on threshing floors and in transport pools, machines are still busy in rice, corn, cotton, sugar beet and vegetable fields.

According to data published by the Kazakh Central Statistical Administration, by 13 October millet had been brought in from 674,000 hectares, or (?81) percent of the total sown. Millet harvesting has been completed in Kustanayskaya and Tselinogradskaya oblasts. In Pavlodarskaya Oblast, with the republic's largest millet area--220,000 hectares--the crop is being gathered from the last thousands of hectares. The oblast also has the largest buckwheat area. Some 106,000 out of the oblast's 110,000 hectares of buckwheat have already been mowed.

Peas have been brought in from 97 percent of the total area.

The harvest is nearing completion in the rice fields. The crop has been mowed on more than 123,000 hectares and threshed on an area almost as large, or significantly more than last year.

The republic's rice area totals more than 127,000 hectares this year, with yields averaging more than 46 quintals per hectare, or 6 quintals more than last year. Rice yields in Kzyl-Ordinskaya and Chimkentskaya oblasts average nearly 50 quintals per hectare.

Corn for grain has been gathered from nearly three-quarters of the total area, or 78,000 hectares. This is also significantly more than last year.

Sugar beets have been dug on 56,000 hectares, or 73 percent of the total. Sunflower seeds have been gathered from more than 66,000 hectares, or 67 percent.

Sunflower seeds yield almost twice as much as last year. The soybean harvest is continuing.

Potatoes remain to be dug on less than 500,000 hectares. Farmers in Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya, Guryevskaya, Karagandinskaya, Kokchetavskaya, Pavlodarskaya, Severo-Kazakhstanskaya and Tselinogradskaya oblasts have already completed potato digging. Potato yields are significantly better than last year.

Vegetables have been gathered from 66 percent of the total area. Winter crop sowing is continuing. Some 1,736,000 hectares, or 87 percent, have already been sown. The plan for fall plowing has been 66 percent fulfilled.